

July 2004

DN EXTRA...



Scot free

Parliament's new inquiry

Class war

Tory schools policy panned

Open court

Witnesses praise new measures

DN EXTRA...

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Editor Mary Wilkinson

editorial

News Editor John Pring
Reporters Nuala Calvi and Lucy Glynn
Layout Sub David Felton
Editorial Assistant Lucy Howard
Design/Production Editor Jamie Trounce

address

Disability Now, 6 Market Road
 London N7 9PW

Editorial: 020 7619 7323
Fax: 020 7619 7331
Minicom: 020 7619 7332
e-mail: editor@disabilitynow.org.uk

advertising

Advertising Manager
 Richard Gresham
Tel: 020 7619 7336
e-mail: richard.gresham@scope.org.uk

Sales Executive
 Patrick Durham-Matthews
Tel: 020 7619 7320
e-mail: patrick.durhammatthews@scope.org.uk

Sales Administrative Assistant Suzan Hillman
Tel: 020 7619 7120
Fax: 020 7619 7331

marketing

Marketing Manager
 Juliana Uduezue
Marketing Executive
 Elizabeth Cowley

subscriptions

Customer Interface, Cary Court,
 Bancombe Trading Estate,
 Somerton, Somerset TA11 6TB.
Tel: 0845 120 7001
e-mail: dnsubs@cisubs.co.uk

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Scots get serious

The Scottish Parliament is to examine the barriers faced by disabled people in further and higher education, work, leisure and the arts in an 18-month inquiry.

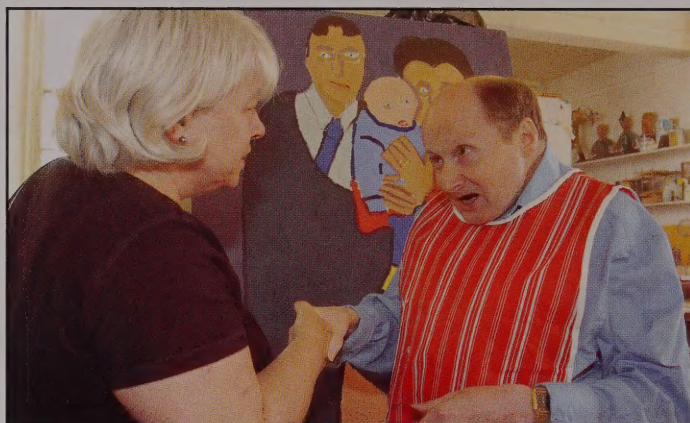
The Equal Opportunities Committee (EOC) will hold a series of meetings and visits with disabled people across Scotland as part of its Removing Barriers and Creating Opportunities inquiry*.

It follows the committee's examination last year of the achievements and lessons of the European Year of Disabled People.

Cathy Peattie, committee convener, said: "A large number of issues were raised with us by disabled people in 2003.

"We want to focus our attention on some of these to identify what steps can be taken to increase the participation of disabled people in all aspects of life in Scotland."

She said the committee



intended to produce recommendations that would have a "real and tangible effect" on the lives of disabled people.

Michelle Hegarty, director of communications for Capability Scotland, said they were "delighted" with the announcement and that it was going to be a "fairly substantial inquiry".

To mark its launch, MSPs visited Project Ability, a Glasgow visual arts project that works

with adults with learning difficulties and mental health problems.

Pictured are Project Ability member Andrew Bryce with EOC member Sandra White MSP.

**To register an interest in providing evidence, send your contact details to: Equal Opportunities Committee, Committee Chambers Room 2.8, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH99 1SP, fax 0131 3485600 or email equal.opportunities@scottish.parliament.uk*

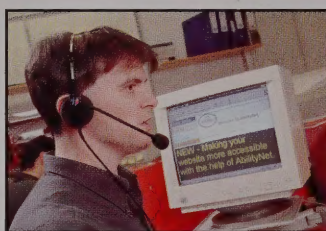
Superstores fail web test

Only one of five top UK super-markets has a website that is accessible to disabled people, according to a new survey.

The audit by the computing and disability charity AbilityNet* found that only the alternative "access" website run by Tesco was easily used by people with a visual impairment, a physical impairment that makes mouse use difficult, or dyslexia.

The charity said the other sites were excluding millions of potential customers.

Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Asda only achieved one star out of five for accessibility, with the Somerfield and Tesco mainstream sites awarded two stars.



AbilityNet said the findings mirrored its earlier surveys on websites for airlines, national newspapers and banks.

Of the five supermarkets, Sainsbury's, Asda and Morrisons have agreed to AbilityNet's request to commit themselves to improving accessibility.

Robin Christopherson (above), AbilityNet's web consultancy manager, who is blind, said:

"Accessible sites are simply easier to use: they improve productivity for everyone. There is no reason why your site can't be both accessible and professional."

Asda said its site was being revamped and would conform to recognised accessibility guidelines by October, when new duties come into force under the Disability Discrimination Act.

Tesco said it would continue to work on improving the accessibility of its websites.

AbilityNet's next report, due in September, will look at the websites of last season's top ten Premiership football clubs.

**www.abilitynet.co.uk or call free on 0800 269545*

Front cover: The National Deaf Children's Society celebrated its 60th anniversary with a family fun day at Sandown Racecourse in Surrey last month. Six-year-old Oliver Chettle (pictured) was one of those who enjoyed the climbing wall. Other activities included a technology museum, an interactive story dome and a circus skills workshop, as well as child development sessions for parents.

Concern over Tory school plans

A new Conservative policy to scrap independent education appeals against exclusions will discriminate against disabled children, say campaigners.

The decision to give head teachers and governors the final say on expulsions of "disruptive children" is part of the party's new Right to Choose education package.

Two years ago, DN told how

a similar policy announced by the Conservatives would weaken new rights to challenge exclusions under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

At the time, the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) said it would make it harder to challenge discrimination and the party "would have to" change the policy.

Children with special educational needs are seven times more likely to be excluded from school.

Now the DRC is to raise its concerns over the new policy with the party.

Neil Crowther, acting head of policy at the DRC, said it might breach the DDA.

"Our concern is how could you be assured that governing bodies would give a fair hearing to disabled children who had

been excluded and are claiming discrimination?"

The National Autistic Society also criticised the policy and said the "vast majority" of children with autistic spectrum disorders were only excluded because their schools had failed to offer appropriate support and training.

Paul Goodman (left), the Conservative disability spokesman, said the new policies would "benefit all pupils, and that of course includes disabled pupils".

But he said he could not

Tories hit DDA

A "policy commitment" announced by the Shadow Education Secretary would weaken new laws to prevent the discrimination of disabled pupils.

Damian Green told a delighted Conservative Party conference that the party would "abolish the costly and bureaucratic appeals panels that second-guess heads and governors".

He added: "We will make sure that, inside the school gate, the head's word is law. That's a policy commitment."

But the policy, intended to make it easier for schools to deal with violent pupils, would also weaken the rights of disabled children.

The speech came weeks after parents of disabled pupils were given new rights to challenge exclusions, under an extension to the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

A recent National Autistic Society (NAS) survey found one in five autistic children had been excluded from school.

David Pearce, NAS head of policy, said: "While head teachers must have the right to

enforce discipline in the classroom, children with autism should not be excluded simply because their school cannot manage their behaviour effectively."

"With the new protection against less favourable treatment offered by the DDA, the exclusions appeal process is a vital check and balance for parents and must not simply be swept away."

A Disability Rights Commission (DRC) policy expert said it would "weaken the opportunity to challenge discrimination".

And DRC chair Bert Mawle said the Conservatives "would have to" change the policy.

"You can't go around saying you are the caring party and looking after vulnerable people and the next you say you're going to smite a lot of them."

When questioned by DN, Green said that, under the pro-

posed policy there would still be a right of appeal to a local education authority (LEA) panel.

But Steve Broach, NAS policy and campaigns manager, said an independent appeal was a "fundamental plank" of the new DDA education rights.

"The independent appeal adjudicates because it is independent of the LEA and the LEA has a stake in exclusion."

"It would not have any credibility if it was tied into the school or LEA in any way."

Tim Boswell, Shadow Minister for Disabled People, confirmed that any appeal of a head teacher's decision would go to an LEA panel.

But he said the party would discuss the issue if it was raised by the DRC or NAS.

When DN asked Boswell if the new policy would weaken the DDA, he said: "I cannot accept that," but declined to comment further.

How DN reported the earlier announcement in 2002

comment further until he had contacted the DRC and NAS to discuss their concerns.



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Fast-Track graduate scheme celebrates ten of the best

A disability charity celebrated ten years of finding jobs for disabled graduates by launching a new scheme that could further boost their careers.

Scope's Fast-Track Alumnus Society will help disabled people who have taken part in its Fast-Track scheme develop their careers by networking with corporate partners such as *The Guardian*, Ford and the Audit Commission.

About 30 former Fast-Track trainees joined Maria Eagle, minister for disabled people, at the event at the offices of credit card company Capital One in Nottingham.

They also attended workshops on leadership and disability, led by Scope work patron

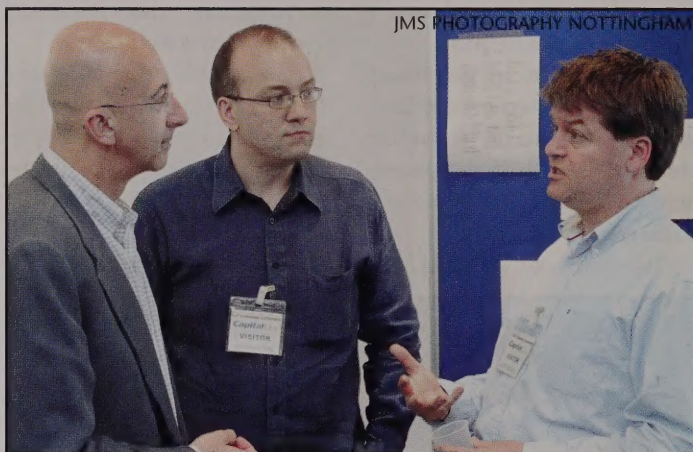
David Grayson, a director of Business in the Community.

Former Fast-Track trainee Janna Callan said: "Fast-Track gave me the opportunity to fully explore and assess my needs in an understanding environment, where expert advice and support was readily available.

"As a result I now have the equipment and confidence to excel in employment."

Ms Eagle said: "Fast-Track is a tremendous initiative and sends the strongest signal to employers that they are missing out on very real talent simply by failing to make the necessary changes in their attitudes and practices.

"All things being equal, there would be no need for Fast-Track



and disabled people would have just as much opportunity in the workplace as anyone. But, despite greater legal protection from discrimination and strong evidence of the commercial benefits of a diverse workforce,

there is still some way to go."

Pictured at the event in Nottingham are (from left) Mr Grayson and Fast-Track "graduates" Simon Taylor and Alex White.

*www.scope.org.uk/fasttrack

Support for disabled people

If you have a disability or health condition that affects your chances of finding or keeping a job, ask to see a Disability Employment Adviser, based in your local Jobcentre or Jobcentre Plus office.

They can provide:

- help with finding and keeping a job
- information on training
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www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk



Witnessing benefits

Changes in the criminal justice system are encouraging many more disabled people to give evidence in court cases, according to new government research.

The first of the "special measures" were introduced two years ago and aimed to make it easier for "vulnerable" witnesses – such as people with learning difficulties – to give their evidence.

They include the use of screens between the witness and defendant, the use of evidence via video recordings or TV links and the removal of wigs and gowns to make courtrooms less intimidating.

The research report* said nine in ten witnesses using live links or video-recorded evidence found them helpful.

And nearly half of victims of sexual offences said they would not have given their evidence without the special measures.

Kathryn Stone, director of

the charity Voice UK, which helps people with learning difficulties who have been victims of crime, welcomed the report and said: "These measures are working and proving that everyone can have access to justice."

And she said she was also heartened by the police's efforts to improve their services for people with learning difficulties.

Baroness Scotland, a home office minister, said: "Special measures are helping many witnesses to give evidence and can be the difference between a case going to trial or being dropped."

During the next year, the government is piloting schemes to use intermediaries to help people with communication impairments give evidence.

**Are special measures working? Evidence from surveys of vulnerable and intimidated witnesses, at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/whatsnew1.html*

Care wages must rise

A consortium of voluntary sector employers has warned that fees paid by local authorities must rise to fend off a "major crisis" in the staffing of their social care services.

The Social Care Employers Consortium (SCEC) said in a new report* that it was becoming increasingly difficult to recruit and retain qualified staff to work in their residential, supported living and other care settings.

It said salaries should be brought in line with other public services and called for the government to "invest significantly" in the sector.

The report also said voluntary organisations were unable to match salaries paid by local authorities or fund staff training because councils often limited the fees they paid for their services.

Clare Smith, chair of SCEC, said: "In the interests of both staff and service users, we call on the government to act quickly to address this growing crisis by investing more money in social care."

The Department of Health said there had been a "record increase in social services funding", with average rises of six per cent a year from 2003 to 2006, but it was for individual councils to set fee levels.

It will soon consult on a "new vision for adult social services", following discussions on social care workforce issues between central government, employers and providers, and is working on a health and social care pay and workforce strategy.

**Social Care: the growing crisis, www.scec.uk.net*



Business brain: therapist Lynn Alexander, from Chester, won the first Sidney Callis Achievement Award from the Blind Business Association Charitable Trust (BBACT), for developing her business from "humble beginnings into a thriving success story". She was presented with the award last month by Conservative MP John Bercow, watched by Sidney Callis (right), who founded BBACT ten years ago.

Anger over £12 incontinence bills

A disabled woman is furious at having to pay £12 a week to buy extra incontinence pads, despite being on income support.

Lynn Hansell, from Telford, Shropshire, would not have to make any financial contribution if she could use a catheter.

But she has to use incontinence pads, and her primary care trust will only pay for a maximum of four a day. She ends up buying an extra pack a week, costing £12.

She said: "I dread to think how much it would cost should I become doubly incontinent. My real concern is that there are many in a worse financial position than I."

Incontact, a charity for people with bladder and bowel problems, said it was a "very, very common problem". It is due to investigate the issue later this year.

Kerry Lee, communications manager for Incontact, said: "A lot of people have trouble affording the extra pads they need. It needs to be addressed."

A Telford and Wrekin Primary Care Trust spokesman

said it would be "inappropriate" to comment on Mrs Hansell's case, but they are willing to discuss the issue with her.

He said the assessment of any individual's need for free incontinence pads can be "reviewed" and adjustments made if "appropriate".

Meanwhile, the charity Scope is launching a campaign to highlight the problems disabled people have in accessing toilets when enjoying a night out.

As part of its Free2Pee campaign, the charity is looking for disabled people to take part in its "Big Night Out" access survey* on Friday, 1 October, the day the new access requirements under the DDA come into force.

Participants will be asked to survey the toilets at the venues they visit during their night out.

Free2Pee is part of Scope's Time to Get Equal campaign**, which aims to help disabled people achieve equality.

**www.free2pee.org.uk*

***www.timetogetequal.org.uk*

See DN August for our feature on continence

Young people work it out

Last month, the charity Shaw Trust held a conference in London to look at the problems faced by disabled and disadvantaged young people as they try to find jobs. Journalism student Jessica Sutton, who spoke at the conference about her own experiences, reports



Pictured, the event's young speakers, (from left to right): Scott Embley, Thomas Harrison, Chris Malone, Carly Salter, Jo Flannery, Halima Begum and (front) Jessica Sutton

If you were to ask young disabled people what their concerns were about their future, the chances are employment would be somewhere in their response.

With this in mind, the Shaw Trust organised its *Supporting Disadvantaged and Disabled Young People* conference, held at the Barbican Centre, London, on 24 June.

Shaw Trust provides training and work opportunities for more than 20,000 people in the UK, who are disadvantaged in the workplace due to disability, ill health or other social circumstances.

This was the charity's first conference specifically about young people. Several young people had been selected to take part after a series of regional seminars which had revolved around the themes of choosing work and gaining independence.

Catherine A'Bear, Shaw Trust's director of communica-

tions, said: "Once these seminars had been completed, we wanted to share the findings with a much bigger audience."

The young people spoke about their personal experiences in finding employment, and shared their success stories with the audience.

After being expelled from school at 14, Thomas Harrison, from Lincolnshire, has turned his life around, securing himself a job at Honda.

"I feel on top of the world," he laughs. "I know loads of other people who would want to be in my shoes, and I'm very happy."

Thomas, now 17, got the job through the Shaw Trust and Lincolnshire County Council project Solutions 4, which forms part of the government's alternative curriculum plans.

"I wouldn't have got the job if it wasn't for the Shaw Trust. Now I want to see how far I can go."

And he seems to be well on his way. An initial apprenticeship led to a 12-month contract as a tyre mechanic. The responsibility has changed Thomas completely. "It keeps me out of trouble and has made me mature," he says.

Jo Flannery, 15, from Lincolnshire, who was also expelled from school, has now secured a job as an apprentice hairdresser. Initially she struggled to find work, and felt she had been turned down by another hairdresser purely because she had been expelled. She says: "If my twin sister had gone for the job as well she would have got it. Everybody deserves a second chance."

Scott Embley, 21, from Solihull, Birmingham, has learning difficulties, and was told when he left school to go and collect benefit forms. Thanks to the Shaw Trust, he has a job at the UCI cinema near where he lives.

He says: "I'm earning my own money, I have new friends, and I have a social life."

Chris Malone, 24, and his fiancée Carly Salter, 22, who are both visually impaired and from Swansea, entertained the audience with the story of their relationship. Carly, a social policy graduate who is hoping to become a social worker, said: "One thing I'm worried about is what happens if I don't get taken seriously by the employer. Will they expect more from me in order to prove that I can do the work?"

Chris, a trainee teacher, added: "The biggest thing is proving yourself, proving that you can do it. In a sense, trying to convince somebody

who might not want to be convinced."

Halima Begum, 20, from Tower Hamlets, east London, who is profoundly deaf, says: "I wish people would be more aware in the future, but I'm happy to help them understand."

Other speakers on the day included Tim Cooper, from Shaw Trust, Pete Loewenstein, from the National Youth Agency, Hilary Wiseman from sponsor HSBC, and Christine Oliver and Richard Frost from WorkWays, a group working with people in Exeter with mental health issues.

Mr Loewenstein believes that if alternative vocational qualifications, such as Duke of Edinburgh Awards, were given proper credit, like GCSEs and A Levels, it would give people like Thomas and Jo better chances in life.

Jennifer Izeke, chief executive of London East Connexions, agrees: "It's about raising young people's aspirations and raising our expectations."

Ms Wiseman, head of diversity at HSBC, believes employers must focus on what people can do, instead of what they can't do. "People don't want special treatment. They want fair treatment," she says.

Christopher Holmes MBE, a Disability Rights Commissioner, offers these final words of wisdom: "Don't think for one moment that you will be a burden to the employer. You will bring something to that business. If you want to go for it, set the goal, look at what you want to achieve and do everything to make it happen."

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Attending the information sessions is not a requirement for completing a bid for the provision.

Anyone wishing to submit a bid but not attending the briefing session, can find full details and an application form on our website www.Jobcentreplus.gov.uk

from w/c 19 July.

If you are interested in working with Jobcentre Plus and would like to nominate your organisation to attend this information session, please contact Barbara Maguire on 0121 452 5572 by 15 July at the latest.



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RENAULT TRAFIC AUTO, F reg, 20k miles, hand controls, tail lift, MOT, part camper conversion. Open to offers. Tel: 01384 232225. Email: kngbrndn@aol.com

ADAPTED HAND CONTROL Cars: Daewoo S Reg, air con, low mileage, auto. Nubira Estate £5,000 ono. Vauxhall Astra K reg, sunroof, auto, £1,500. Tel: 020 8593 6386.

MITSUBISHI SPACE WAGON, F reg, manual £550. Tel: 020 8593 6386.

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WANTED

Freelance Writers on disability subject matter.

For further information contact Julie Twose at Disability Link

Tel: 0117 954 7374

e-mail:

sales@disabilitylink.com

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BRYN MEIRION LODGE

Amlwch Road, Benllech, Anglesey, North Wales, LL74 8SR. Tel: 01248 853118
Hotel adapted for wheelchair users. Ensuite specialised rooms with ceiling hoists and electric beds. Also available 1 self-catering unit. Book now to avoid disappointment.
www.brynmeirionlodge.co.uk

10 MINUTES FROM DISNEYLAND

Florida villa owned by paraplegic. Sleeps up to 12, fully accessible and large. King size bed with ensuite bathroom, wc and wheel-in shower. Large pool with water operated seat for a disabled person. A holiday you can take with confidence. Contact John Gillett on: 01805 601147.

The Algarve, Portugal

Small hotel owned and run by English family. Home from home. Happy and friendly. Home cooked food. Diets catered for. All bedrooms en-suite. Our own swimming pool and grass bowling green. Golfing bookings can be made. We are fully equipped for wheelchair users, their families and friends. Met at Faro airport. For brochures and flights with A.T.O.L. agents, tel: 00 351 289 396589, fax: 00 351 289 394924.

A dynamic and ground-breaking university, UEL now has a record 17,000 students from more than 100 countries worldwide. Diverse and multicultural, it has a great sense of community and, with its new internationally acclaimed Docklands campus, UEL is a major force in the regeneration of the Thames Gateway region.

SHAPING THE FUTURE

STUDENT SERVICES - HEAD OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE

SALARY C£45K + EXCELLENT BENEFITS + RELOCATION PACKAGE

Could you make a REAL difference to the prospects of 17000 students? UEL does so by developing and delivering a pioneering range of services to support the general welfare, leisure activities, academic success and employment prospects of all students, helping them to derive maximum benefit from their association with us. As a senior member of the management team, you will also contribute to a wide range of strategic and operational issues, co-ordinating service provision across all departments. Could you LEAD this major department in the UEL Student Services team?

Are you the outstanding and creative individual we require to help us achieve our breadth of vision for our students? The mission is to enhance their overall experience and achievement and maximise the inclusivity of every student, whatever their personal circumstances may be. With a wide remit, this role has specific management responsibility for three key service areas: Disability & Dyslexia, Sports & Recreation and the management of our Health Centres.

Requirements: Applicants must have a good degree, ideally with a post-graduate qualification in education, extensive experience of working with students from diverse educational backgrounds and with an in-depth knowledge and understanding of learning styles. Alternatively, you may have gained relevant experience in a commercial, community or other non-academic environment, but will have the evident ability to relate quickly to our environment and the relevant key issues. Applicants must also have evident ability in the management and development of disability services, combined with experience in budget management, external fund generation, optimisation of resources and a proven ability to increase the range and quality of student services.

For an application pack please call our consultants Phil Bacon or Gill Atkinson on 020 7636 5444, or forward a CV outlining your suitability for the post, to Chartwell Search and Selection Ltd, 34 Queen Anne Street, London W1G 8HE email: phil@chartwellsearch.co.uk. Please quote Ref. PBD/1160. Additional information is available on www.uel.ac.uk/vacancies. Applications made via the UEL website will be forwarded to our consultants. The closing date for applications is 24th July 2004.

We are equal opportunities employers who, owing to under representation, particularly welcomes applications from all minority ethnic groups and individuals who have a disability.



FAST – the foundation for assistive technology

Assistive technology is now used as the term to describe disability equipment

Administration and Publicity Officer

£23,000-25,000 pro rata
+6% pension contribution

21 hours per week - based at Old Street, London
flexible working arrangements offered
Contract to March 2006 (extendable, subject to funding)

FAST works with the assistive technology community to get new inventions onto the market and into people's homes.

We need you to support our small, dynamic team and to help ensure we communicate effectively with the AT community.

Candidates should have 2 years administrative experience as well as an interest and skills in communication in a variety of media. Application by CV with supporting statement.

Please email info@fastuk.org for application pack or write to: FAST, 12 City Forum, 250 City Road, London EC1V 8AF. Full information at www.fastuk.org

Disabled people and people from Black & Minority Ethnic backgrounds are particularly encouraged to apply.

Closing date : 30th July. Interviews provisionally, w/c 3rd August.

Registered Charity
No: 1061636

CITROEN BERLINGO MULTISPACE

1.8 1998, Brotherwood conversion. All electrics, metallic blue, 10 months' MOT, 5 months' tax, 42k miles, excellent condition. £6,995 ono. Tel: 01305 259296.

ELAP ROTATING CAR passenger seat for Ford Escort Mk 7, hardly used. £75. Tel: 01909 500749.

VOLVO 850SE 2.5 auto estate, L reg, 96k miles, full MOT, fsh, elec windows, s/mirror. Warranty June 05, vgc, hand controls, £3,800. Tel: 01970 890486.

FORD FOCUS ZETEC Tdi 2002 red, 50k miles, Constables conversion plus wheelchair, still under warranty. Cost £18,000 new, fsh, will sell for £13,500. Tel: 01443 475385 or mobile: 07779 244917.

ROVER 416 AUTO with hoist for passenger, one owner, new MOT, excellently maintained, only 50k miles despite K reg. £1,500. Tel/fax: 020 8455 6181.

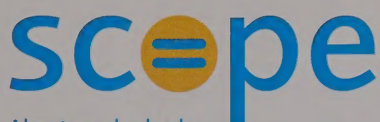
VW CARAVELLE VARIANT 2.5Tdi, V reg, Invatravel conversion, Ricon rear tail lift. Seats 6 plus one wheelchair/4 plus 2 wheel-

chairs. 46k miles, full electrics, dashboard air con, CD/cassette radio. Mint condition, any inspection, £13,000. Tel: 01902 344365 or mobile: 07793 282891. Email: tonybristow@lineone.net

RED NISSAN VANETTE 2.3 Diesel, Brotherwood adaption, would suit large wheelchair user. Rear entry height 5ft (1 metre and 52.5cm). W reg (2000). 60k miles, 2 rear seats. 4 point w/chair clamp + 2 point seat belt points. One user, fsh, only one owner, full Mot + Tax. Very good condition. £8,500. Tel: 01985 218883 or email: Ellkayc40@aol.com

VW SHARAN 1.9TDI, registered late 2001, only 2 owners, 85k miles, still under warranty, fsh, high spec, silver, 115 bhp, 6 speed. Automotive conversion, carries 6 incl wheelchair. £12,500 ono. Tel: 01620 894990.

RENAULT TRAFIC 2.2 T1100, 40k miles, R reg, Versa conversion with tracking, winch, spring assisted ramp and clamps, 5 seats and wheelchair, long MOT, clean and tidy. £6,500 ono. Tel: 01362 687942 (Norfolk).



About cerebral palsy.
For disabled people achieving equality.

Speaking for Ourselves Project Co-ordinator, London

As part of our **Time to get equal** campaign, Speaking for Ourselves is a two-year oral history project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, exploring the life experiences of an older generation of people with cerebral palsy.

With personal direct experience of cerebral palsy and of oral history, you will be responsible for coordinating and mentoring a team of disabled volunteer interviewers, trained in oral history techniques.

With experience of writing for education and working with video and the Internet, you will help to create materials to communicate the living heritage of disabled people to a wider audience.

Salary: £21,331 + £2,801 ILW per annum
Two-year contract
35 hours per week

Closing date for applications: **26 July 2004**

Email maria.frederick@scope.org.uk
Write to: Maria Frederick, 6 Market Road, London
N7 9PW or call 020 7619 7221



Supported by the
Heritage Lottery Fund

CHRYSLER GRAND VOYAGER 3.3, 1997 N reg, left hand drive, 5 seats and room for wheelchair, dual controls (hand and/or feet), auto, lowered floor, automatic sliding side door and ramp, 40k miles, fsh, only 1 owner from new, wheelchair locking mechanism enabling driver to be wheelchair user. 12 months' MOT, in excellent condition. £11,995 ono. Tel: 0161 702 9541.

NISSAN PRAIRIE 1.8 Brotherwood conversion, rear wheelchair access. Also, comes with front seat wheelchair system worth £5,000. F reg, 80k miles, only 2 owners, fsh, in good condition. £3,000 ono. Tel: 020 8224 1749.

TOYOTA HIACE 2.3, diesel, 02 reg, pas, 14k miles only, full wheelchair access through ramp, carries 6 incl driver and wheelchair passenger. Only one owner, in excellent condition, £10,500 ono. Tel: 020 8690 3480 or mobile: 07961 171305.

MINIBUS WITH WHEELCHAIR lift access, diesel, N reg, 1 to 4 w/chairs seats accordingly, pas. £3,000 ono. Tel: 01273 241066.

FIESTA COMBI VAN 1.8 diesel, P reg with Brotherwoods conversion incl rear ramp, 4 wheelchair points with 2 rear seats. MOT til Feb 05, pas, 52k miles, regularly serviced. £3,695 ono. Tel: 01432 371433 or mobile: 078111 34405.

Surrey Independent Living Council

Surrey Independent Living Council (SILC) is an organisation of disabled people. Our aim is to support disabled people to take control of their lives.

SILC is working in partnership with Surrey County Council and Connexions

Surrey to support young disabled people and their families to access Direct Payments to have greater choice and control over their support arrangements.

To achieve this SILC is recruiting disabled people for the posts of

YOUNG PERSONS' INDEPENDENT LIVING ADVISOR ref: CONA

(28 hours per week, £19,059 to £20,946 pro rata, fixed term contract til March 2006)

to work with individuals and groups of disabled people aged 13 to 25 who wish to explore options for taking control of their lives.

and

DIRECT PAYMENTS ADVISOR ref: SCCA

(25 hours per week, £20,946 to 26,525 pro rata)

to join our team of experienced Advisors, providing advice and support to people who use Direct Payments to arrange and manage their support arrangements.

For both posts applicants must be able to demonstrate

- A thorough understanding of and commitment to the principles of Independent Living
- An understanding of the difficulties young disabled people and their families experience
- Experience of supporting young people and involving them in developing services
- Knowledge of social care legislation, including Direct Payments
- Ability to work in a multi agency environment
- Excellent communication and organisational skills
- The ability to travel throughout Surrey

Both posts are based at SILC's Guildford office.

Closing date: 23rd July

Interviews will be held: week beginning 26th July

For further information & application pack: tel
01483 458111 quoting
job reference.

connexions

SURREY

DEADLINES: Disability Now August 2004,
published 31 July Classified deadlines: booking
16 July, copy 20 July. For more information

contact Patrick Durham-Matthews

Tel: 020 7619 7320, Fax: 020 7619 7331

email patrick.durhammatthews@scope.org.uk

The Milford Electric Person Lift

The simplest way to be lifted from your wheelchair into a vehicle

Body of Milford now made from aluminium - weighs just 8kg



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- Power is supplied by the car's 12 volt battery.
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- Simple to transfer to your next car, leaving your existing vehicle in its original condition.

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Automatic Wheelchair Carrier
Folds, lifts & stores manual wheelchairs



The lightest fully-enclosed automatic rooftop wheelchair carrier in the world. With an aluminium and carbon fibre construction, it is light enough to fit even the smallest of cars.

CARONNY

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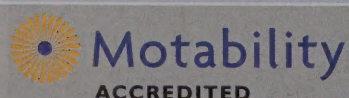
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